

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-27. Canceled

28. (Currently amended) A dosage form for topical treatment of a bacterial, viral or fungal infection in a patient in need thereof, wherein said dosage form ~~comprising~~ is effective in killing infectious organisms on skin or treating bacterial, virus or fungal conditions while causing no significant inflammation, said dosage form consisting essentially of:

a pharmaceutically acceptable acidifying agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor, wherein said acidifying agent is an organic acid and wherein said acidifying agent is present in an amount sufficient to reduce pH at an environment of use to below 4, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable source of nitrite ions and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefore, wherein said source of nitrite ions is an alkali metal or an alkaline earth metal nitrite and wherein said nitrite ions are in an amount effective when combined with said acidifying agent to treat said infection, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor,

wherein said acidifying agent and said source of nitrite ions are separately disposed for admixture to release ~~nitrite ions oxides of nitrogen~~ at the intended environment of use and wherein said acidifying agent is present in an amount sufficient to establish a pH at an environment of use below 4.

29. Canceled.

30. (Previously presented) The dosage form of claim 28, wherein said organic acid is salicylic acid or ascorbic acid.

31. (Previously presented) The dosage form of claim 28, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable source of nitrite ions is sodium nitrite.

32. (Currently amended) The dosage form of claim 27, 28, wherein the dosage form is a cream or ointment and wherein the acidifying agent and the source of nitrate nitrite ions are separately disposed in the cream or ointment.